

THOMAS RUSSON

Lehi Centennial History 1850-1950

Thomas Russon, oldest son of Lot and Eliza Round Russon, was born in Netherton, Worcestershire, England, June 3, 1853. His early boyhood was spent in his native land.

In 1871 he emigrated to Utah with his parents, settling in Lehi where he always resided.

One of his early pursuits was assisting his father in making adobes. Many of Lehi's first homes were built of these adobes.

He helped lay the track for the railroad at the Point of the Mountain. He next went to Little Cottonwood Canyon and worked on the tramway. While there, he met with an accident which nearly cost him his life. A mule team ran away with him, throwing him violently to the snow-covered ground where he lay most of the night before he was rescued.

February 1, 1877, he married Elizabeth Amelia Jones and began his career as a farmer. He raised some of the first beets for the Lehi Sugar Factory. He helped build the factory and worked there during the fall campaigns.

He was an earnest church worker, holding successively all the offices of the priesthood. He was a member of the Old Folks Committee for 25 years.

He was of a jovial nature and made the best of life. This is clearly indicated by an adopted saying of his, "It might have been worse," which, though he used it in a jocular way, in its more serious meaning, it showed that when things did not go right he would think they might have been worse and would try again.

May 10, 1926, his wife passed away. Seven years later, June 1933, he married Pauline Dansie. She died in April 1935.

He passed away October 18, 1939, at the home of his daughter, Florence Mitchell.